

Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Monday - 4 June 1973

Page 2

5. (Internal Use Only - JGO) Met with Herb Roback, Staff Director, Legislation and Military Operations Subcommittee of House Government Operations Committee, and brought him up-to-date in general on the various Watergate hearings. So far I have not offered any documents and Roback has not requested any. With regard to the McCloskey proposals pending before the full Committee, the resolution pertaining to investigation of CIA involvement in political activities overseas was discussed but not voted on prior to breakup of the meeting due to lack of a quorum. As a preliminary to discussion on the matter, however, Chairman Holifield took the position that such an investigation at present is not within jurisdiction of the Committee. Whether Representative McCloskey will appeal this ruling by the Chairman or take further action on the matter is not known at present. As for the letter from Representative Koch (D., N.Y.) requesting Government Operations investigation of Agency involvement in the Watergate, Holifield has replied by letter that this matter is under investigation by the Armed Services Committee and, in consequence, will not be reviewed by the Government Operations Committee.

Roback agreed to meet with the Advanced Intelligence Seminar on Wednesday, 6 June, in the main Committee room of Government Operations to speak to the group on the general topic of the Committee system of the Congress. He will also review in part some of the problems that may be developing between the Legislative and the Executive as a result of Watergate.

Roback noted that with the many problems relating to both House Armed Services and the Government Operations Committees that have arisen in recent months relating to the Agency that it might be well if an informal meeting could be arranged with the new Director. I suggested that if the Chairman's time would allow it might be well to have the Chairman and Roback out to breakfast in a month or so.

6. (Unclassified - JMM) Frank Slatinshek, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, called to say he had received a call from Peggy Rhodes of NBC who said they were doing a documentary on the Agency and she wanted to discuss the project with Slatinshek. Slatinshek said he had agreed to see her on the afternoon of Wednesday, 6 June, but was not enthusiastic over the idea of cooperating with the media on matters regarding the Agency.

After checking with Angus Thuermer, I called Slatinshek back to say that normally we do not encourage this sort of thing, but actually the same NBC team had done a fairly objective and constructive job on the Agency role in Laos a couple of years ago and we saw no harm in giving them a minimal unclassified background support. I said we had gotten involved at that time in response to the desires of Ambassador Godley, but it had worked out fairly satisfactorily. Slatinshek said in view of this he would be glad to talk to Rhodes.